

PRESS RELEASE

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Education Foundation Awards \$72,000 to Teachers



St. Lucie County, FL – Education Foundation, St. Lucie recently awarded \$72,000 in grants to local Public-School Teachers. The money was raised during several fundraisers and matched by the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations (CFEF).

Through the collaborative effort of its members, the CFEF successfully advocated for the creation of the legislative matching funds in 2000 which has provided a dollar-for-dollar incentive for local education foundations to raise private contributions for eligible projects. Since then, more than \$87.7 million in combined private and state dollars has been employed for local projects that serve low-performing students and literacy initiatives, encourage STEM and career/technical education, improve teaching quality and/or increase graduation rates.

The CFEF is the membership organization for Florida's school district-wide local education foundations. Established in 1987, the CFEF maximizes the individual and collective strength of Florida local education foundations to support local partners and schools in achieving student success. The CFEF now has 63-member foundations with 1,100 business and community leaders serving as volunteer board members. Collectively, they raise nearly \$63 million annually to support students, teachers and schools through a variety of programs. The CFEF has facilitated nearly \$43 million to local education foundations since 2002 through various private-and public-sector partnerships, including the State of Florida School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program.



Education Foundation, St. Lucie was created in 1990, to support the St. Lucie County School Board. Its mission is to advance public K-12 education through partnerships with local businesses and organizations.

It sprang from legislation that was passed in 1984 allowing school districts to create local foundations to raise funds for programs to support students, teachers and public schools. Since its beginning, Education Foundation, St. Lucie, has provided millions of dollars in student scholarships and teacher grants.

Education Foundation, St. Lucie awarded over 35 grants during the last school year as part of their Teacher Grant Program, called 'Working Together for Success'. The grants were for classroom, school-wide, and district-wide projects and were distributed to 12 different schools and the District. Grants allow educators to increase and create opportunities for student success by providing the funds to support innovative teaching methods and programs.

Education Foundation, St. Lucie is a community wide organization. If you would like to get involved as a sponsor, volunteer or supporter, please contact Thom Jones, President at (772) 429-5505 or visit www.efslc.org.

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